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ASSOCIATION FOR MAXIMUM SERVICE TELEVISION, INC.

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November 8, 2004

The Honorable Michael Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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David L. Donovan
President

RE: Written Exparte Communication
Distributed Transmission
MB Docket No. 03-15; RM 9832

Dear Chairman Powell:

On August 4, 2004, the FCC adopted its *Second Periodic Review* in the above captioned matter. In that decision, the FCC generally supported the concept of distributed transmission. As the Commission noted:

"We agree with the generally supportive comments that the technology has potential benefits to the public and the reported testing to date is encouraged. Thus, in principle we approve of the use of DTS technology. As suggested by MSTV/NAB, we will soon open a separate fast track proceeding to propose rules for DTS operation and to develop an adequate record on several technical and policy issues related to its use."¹

The Media Bureau is to be complimented for its efforts to develop interim guidelines governing distributed transmission systems. These efforts will no doubt lay the foundation for a set of final rules. To this end, we urge the Commission to support the Media Bureau's efforts to move forward with rules that will govern distributed transmission systems.

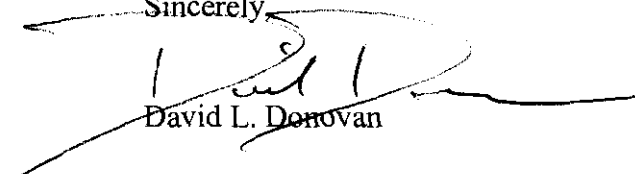
MSTV continues to believe that distributed transmission offers significant opportunities for local television stations to enhance service to their communities. This new technology will help local stations reach areas where off-air reception is difficult. The application of such technology will help more consumers receive new digital program offerings and services that will be provided by local television broadcasters. This technology is fully consistent with the FCC goal of moving forward with the digital transition.

¹ *Second Periodic Review of the Commissions Rules and Policies Affecting the Conversion to Digital Television*, MB Docket No. 03-15, FCC 04-192, released September 7, 2004 at 78.

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As local stations move towards selecting their final DTV channels, it is important to have an established set of rules governing new distributed transmission techniques. Accordingly, MSTV urges the FCC to proceed expeditiously with its promised "fast track" proceeding for DTS operation.

Sincerely,

David L. Donovan

cc: The Honorable Kevin Martin,
The Honorable Kathleen Abernathy,
The Honorable Jonathan Adelstein
The Honorable Michael Copps
Mr. Ken Ferree, Chief Media Bureau
Ms. Marlene Dortch, FCC Secretary